

Oregon



BUILDING ON ITS 2011 RACE TO THE TOP – Early Learning Challenge Plan, Oregon is already making progress in several areas, including total quality improvement, workforce development, kindergarten readiness assessment, and alignment with K12. These four projects, together with three others, frame Oregon’s Phase 2 approach to its Early Learning Challenge. These projects will have the greatest impact on advancing the overall Oregon reform plan because, when implemented over the next four years, they will increase exponentially the number of children with high needs participating in excellent early learning and development programs throughout the state. The impact will be seen, by project, in the following ways:

Project 1: Add tiers to the tiered quality rating and improvement system (TQRIS) for all early learning and development programs and align funding (mainly subsidies) to the tiers.

Project 2: Increase participation of early learning and development programs in the TQRIS and increase the tier rating of programs.

Project 3: Build infrastructure and capacity among providers and early learning and development programs through workforce framework implementation and health promotion (developmental screening).

Project 4: Build and link an early learning data system to the statewide longitudinal data system.

Project 5: Improve public access to information on quality programs and resources and increase consumer outreach and transparency.

Project 6: Align early learning and development programs and the K12 education system using the Head Start Child Development & Early Learning Framework and the Common Core State Standards.

Applicant

Office of the Governor,
State of Oregon

Lead Agency

Office of the Governor,
Early Learning Council

Contact Information

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Total Federal Award

\$30,763,353

Grant Period

January 1, 2013 –
December 31, 2016

The Race to the Top – Early Learning Challenge (RTT-ELC) discretionary grant program supports states in building statewide systems that raise the quality of early learning and development programs and increase access to high-quality programs for children with high needs, so that all children enter kindergarten ready to succeed.

Information in this abstract is drawn from the state’s RTT-ELC grant application.

Project 7: Implement a kindergarten readiness assessment.

There is great excitement and anticipation in Oregon around education reform, in particular early learning and care. Sectors are aligned and energized. RTT-ELC funding will launch a new phase of system change that will further develop and implement key elements of the early learning system and help Oregon reach more children with high needs faster. At a time when budgets are extremely bare bones, yet spirits are high, this resource infusion is greatly appreciated.